

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-05 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 USIA-15

AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 SCI-06 NAS-01

NSF-04 COME-00 INT-08 COA-02 EB-11 EPA-04 CEQ-02 L-03

DRC-01 OIC-04 /169 W

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R 040935Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1990

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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NESCO

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OCON, UNESCO, SF

SUBJECT: SOUTH AFRICANS EXCLUDED FROM INTERNATIONAL
HYDROLOGICAL DECADE END OF DECADE CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 191438

1. SOUTH AFRICA WAS EXCLUDED FROM PARTICIPATION IN
SUBJECT CONFERENCE BY ROLL CALL VOTE OF 45 - 18 (US) -
13 AFTER DAY LONG DISCUSSION ON SEPTEMBER 2. RESOLUTION
TEXT BEING POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT AND GENEVA.

2. GHANIAN DELEGATE INTRODUCED RESOLUTION FOR EXCLUSION
ON BEHALF 14 AFRICAN COUNTRIES FOLLOWING TWO AFRICAN
CAUCUSES IN WHICH THERE APPARENTLY DIVISION BETWEEN
THOSE FAVORING EXCLUSION AND THOSE (NIGERIA) WHO FAVORED
PROTEST STATEMENT WITHOUT IMPOSING EXCLUSION. MODERATES
APPARENTLY MINDFUL THAT WMO WILL CONSIDER QUESTION OF
CONTINUED SOUTH AFRICAN MEMBERSHIP NEXT APRIL AND
THEREFORE DID NOT URGE EXCLUSION NOW DUE THIS LEGAL
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CONSIDERATION. WMO SECRETARY GENERAL DAVIES AND UNESCO

DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL FOBES RESPECTIVELY MADE STATEMENTS AFFIRMING TECHNICAL LEGALITY OF SOUTH AFRICAN PARTICIPATION. CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN (VOLKER, NETHERLANDS) THEN MADE STATEMENT RULING RESOLUTION OUT OF ORDER ON TECHNICAL GROUNDS BUT NOTED CONFERENCE COULD VOTE TO REJECT THIS RULING. CONFERENCE VOTED BY SHOW OF HANDS 41 - 25 (US) - 6 TO REJECT RULING THEN PROCEEDED TO VOTE REPORTED ABOVE.

3. US DELEGATION CHAIRMAN HENDRICKS MADE INTERVENTION CITING POINTS IN REFTEL INSTRUCTIONS EARLY IN DISCUSSION AFTER RESOLUTION WAS SUPPORTED IN STATEMENTS BY AFRICANS, ALBANIA, CUBA, CHINA, USSR AND YUGOSLAVIA. HOWEVER, US WAS ALONE IN MAKING EXPRESS STATEMENT OF OPPOSITION, DESPITE EARLIER INDICATIONS THAT UK, FRG, FRANCE AND POSSIBLY SCANDINAVIANS WOULD MAKE SIMILAR INTERVENTIONS BEFORE OR AFTER VOTE.

4. US INTERVENTION ALSO EXPRESSED "REGRET" OVER PRC AND ALBANIAN STATEMENTS, WHEN LATTER SECONDED AFRICAN RESOLUTION, PROTESTING ROK AND RVN PARTICIPATION IN CONFERENCE. HOWEVER, RVN ULTIMATELY VOTED FOR SOUTH AFRICAN EXCLUSION BECAUSE, AS THEIR PERMDEL LATER EXPLAINED, THEY MINDFUL OF KEY AFRICAN VOTES IN PERENNIAL CHALLENGES TO RVN. SENEGALESE DEPUTY PERMREP LATER MADE UNUSUAL PERSONAL VISIT TO THANK RVN AND PROMISED CONTINUING SUPPORT FOR RVN.

5. VOTES FOR SOUTH AFRICAN EXCLUSION WERE: ALBANIA, BURUNDI, BULGARIA, BYELORUSSIA, C.A.R., CHINA, CUBA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, EAST GERMANY, GABON, GHANA, GUYANA, HUNGARY, INDIA, INDONESIA, IRAQ, JAMAICA, KENYA, KOWEIT, LEBANON, LIBERIA, LIBYA, MADAGASCAR, MALAYSIA, MOROCCO, MEXICO, NIGERIA, UGANDA, PANAMA, POLAND, SENEGAL,

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SOMALI, SYRIA, TANZANIA, TOGO, TUNISIA, TURKEY, UKRAINE,
USSR AND RVN.

6. COUNTRIES OPPOSED WERE: AUSTRIA, BELGIUM, CANADA,
DENMARK, FRG, FINLAND, FRANCE, IRELAND, ISRAEL, ITALY,
KOREA, NORWAY, NETHERLANDS, SOUTH AFRICA, SWEDEN,
SWITZERLAND, UK AND US.

7. ABSTENTIONS WERE: ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA, BRAZIL,
CHILE, GREECE, GUATEMALA, IRAN, JAPAN, NICARAGUA, NEW
ZEALAND, SPAIN, THAILAND, VENEXUELA.

8. VOTE FOR EXCLUSION WOULD HAVE BEEN EVEN GREATER HAD
NOT 43 COUNTRIES, ALL LDC'S AND INCLUDING 16 AFRICAN
STATES, BEEN ABSENT FROM CONFERENCE. LATIN AMERICANS
ATTENDING GENERALLY VOTED WITH US TO UPHOLD CHAIRMAN'S
INITIAL RULING CITED PARA 2 ABOVE BUT SWITCHED TO
ABSTENTIONS IN FINAL VOTE.

9. COMMENT: CONFERENCE VOTE STRONGLY INDICATES SOUTH
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AFRICA WILL BE OUSTED BY VERY LARGE MAJORITY WHEN
ISSUE ARISES IN WMO CONGRESS NEXT APRIL. ABSENCE OF
STATEMENTS BY OTHER LIKE-MINDED DELEGATIONS IN SUPPORT
US INTERVENTION WAS PARTICULARLY NOTABLE REFLECTION OF
GENERAL UNWILLINGNESS TO RISK BEING CAST AS DEFENDERS
OF SOUTH AFRICA, AS DISTINCT FROM OPPOSING
POLITICIZATION OF TECHNICAL MEETINGS.
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